

FY 2003

**Multicultural Alliances
Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program**

PROGRAM SUMMARY

**Multicultural Alliances
Science and Education Resources Development
Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture**

June 2003

**FY 2003
HISPANIC-SERVING INSTITUTIONS EDUCATION GRANTS PROGRAM
PROGRAM SUMMARY**

The Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program, administered by the USDA office of Higher Education Programs and authorized by section 815 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform (FAIR) Act of 1996 (7 USC 3241), is a competitive grants program designed to promote and strengthen the ability of Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) to carry out education programs that attract, retain, and graduate outstanding students capable of enhancing the Nation's food and agricultural scientific and professional work force. Projects may involve individual institutions, consortia or HSIs, or cooperative initiatives between two or more HSIs or with other colleges and universities, units of government, or the private sector.

Only Hispanic-Serving Institutions are eligible to apply for grants under this program. An eligible 2- or 4-year college or university must have at least 25 percent Hispanic student enrollment and meet other eligibility criteria.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2003, a total of \$3,877,121 was available to support projects in the following areas of emphasis: (1) Faculty Preparation and Enhancement for Teaching; (2) Curricula Design, Materials Development, and Library Resources; (3) Instruction Delivery Systems; (4) Scientific Instrumentation for Teaching; (5) Student Experiential Learning; and (6) Student Recruitment and Retention (including financial assistance).

A total of 37 different institutions from 8 states and Puerto Rico submitted 53 proposals for consideration for funding for this year, the fourth year of the program. Institutions submitting proposals were from the following states: Arizona (1), California (7), Florida (1), Illinois (2), New Mexico (3), and Texas (11). These proposals requested a total of \$ 11,221,188 in USDA funding. In April 2003, the grant applications were evaluated by a twelve-member peer review panel comprised of faculty members from land-grant and non land-grant universities, members from private industry, and representatives of the Federal government. Panelists represented various academic areas including business, agriculture, natural resources, forestry, veterinary medicine, family and consumer sciences, and closely allied disciplines. Based on the peer review deliberations, funds were available to support 19 grants to 16 lead institutions in 6 states and Puerto Rico. An additional 7 other entities (including land-grant institutions, other 2- and 4-year colleges, local school districts, state agencies, and private organizations and businesses) will be involved in these projects. Although not required by the USDA, almost all of these institutions are leveraging Federal grant funds with institutional cost-sharing or third party support.

The following chart presents information on the grants awarded under the FY 2003 Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program.

INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS SUPPORTED

| PROJECT DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT, AND INSTITUTION | PROJECT TITLE | FUNDS AWARDED |
|--|--|------------------|
| Dennis Nef California State University - Fresno Fresno, California | Community College Outreach and Recruitment (C-COR) | \$ 299,822 |
| Roberto S. Chamul California State University - Los Angeles Los Angeles, California | Food Safety and Quality Lab Implementation | \$ 149,690 |
| Kimberlyn Williams California State University - San Bernardino San Bernardino, California | Recruitment and Retention of Students in Conservation Biology and Natural Resource Studies | \$ 299,992 |
| Bill Thieman Ventura Community College Ventura, California | Training and Internships in Geographic Information Systems to Improve Recruitment Strategies and Student Success for Agriculture Majors. | \$ 300,000 |
| Tom Armstrong Otero Junior College Colorado | Southeast Colorado Agriculture Initiative | \$ 300,000 |
| Arturo Rodriguez Miami-Dade Community College Miami, Florida | Strengthening Curriculum and Recruiting Hispanic Students | \$ 149,783 |

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|--|--|------------|
| Cynda Clary New Mexico State University New Mexico | Building Resources for Retention and Maximum Achievement of First-Generation Culturally-Identified Hispanic Agricultural Students | \$ 299,949 |
| Juan Quintana Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico Puerto Rico | A Multimedia Program to Facilitate Retention and Academic Performance of Minority Students in Entry-Level Math and Science Courses | \$ 150,000 |
| Angel Rios Gonzalez Inter American University of Puerto Rico - Ponce Ponce, Puerto Rico | A Project to Recruit Disadvantaged Students in the Environment Science Program | \$ 149,989 |
| Juan A. Negron-Berrios Inter American University of Puerto Rico - Barranquitas Barranquitas, Puerto Rico | Strengthen Science through Biotechnology | \$ 297,329 |
| Ilse M. Sanders Inter American University of Puerto Rico - San German San German, Puerto Rico | A Program to Provide Experiential Learning Experiences for Environmental Science Students | \$ 142,038 |
| Abner A. Rodriguez University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez Mayaguez, Puerto Rico | Enhancing the Knowledge of Environmental and Molecular Biology Issues in Potential and Current Animal Science Students | \$ 144,748 |
| Luis R. Perez Alegria University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez Mayaguez, Puerto Rico | Improving Math and Science Performance in the College of Agriculture | \$ 149,528 |

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|--|--|------------|
| Maya Durnovo Houston Community College Houston, Texas | Problem Solving - Pathway to Careers in Landscape Horticulture | \$ 300,000 |
| Louis A. Harveson Sul Ross State University | Increasing Hispanic Recruitment and Retention in Ag & Natural Resource Sciences through Technology, Mentoring, & Experiential Learning | \$ 149,368 |
| Scott Alan Ericsson Sul Ross State University | Improving Agricultural and Natural Resource Programs to Provide Management Experience for Hispanic and other Unrepresented Students | \$ 146,959 |
| Doreen Kinkel Texas A&M University - Kingsville Kingsville, Texas | Use of E-Mentoring, Job Shadowing, and Professional Conferences in a Structured Approach to Career Awareness, Exploration, and Development | \$ 149,702 |
| Eliezer S. Louzada Texas A&M University - Kingsville Kingsville, Texas | Agricultural Biotechnology Research Experiences for the Preponderantly Hispanic Population of South Texas | \$ 298,363 |
| Robert Lorence Columbia Basin College Washington | USDA Diversity Recruitment and Retention | \$ 149,997 |

**FY 2003 Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program
Total Funds Awarded to States and Lead Institutions**

| <u>State</u> | <u>Lead Institution</u> | | <u>Awards</u> |
|--------------|--|-----------|------------------|
| California | California State University - Fresno | \$ | 299,822 |
| California | California State University - Los Angeles | | 149,690 |
| California | California State University - San Bernardino | | 299,992 |
| California | Ventura Community College | | 300,000 |
| Colorado | Otero Junior College | | 149,864 |
| Florida | Miami - Dade Community College | | 149,783 |
| New Mexico | New Mexico State University | | 299,949 |
| Puerto Rico | Pontifical Catholic University of PR | | 150,000 |
| Puerto Rico | Inter American University of PR - Ponce | | 149,989 |
| Puerto Rico | Inter American University of PR - Barranquitas | | 297,329 |
| Puerto Rico | Inter American University of PR - San German | | 142,038 |
| Puerto Rico | University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez | | 144,748 |
| Puerto Rico | University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez | | 149,528 |
| Texas | Houston Community College | | 300,000 |
| Texas | Sul Ross State University | | 149,368 |
| Texas | Sul Ross State University | | 146,959 |
| Texas | Texas A&M University - Kingsville | | 149,702 |
| Texas | Texas A&M University - Kingsville | | 298,363 |
| Washington | Columbia Basin College | | <u>149,997</u> |
| | Total | \$ | 3,877,121 |

For additional program information, please contact Dr. Irma A. Lawrence at 202-720-1254 or visit our higher education homepage at www.reeusda.gov/serd/hep/.

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